

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DHAHRA 00909 191124Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 MCT-02 IO-13 SCS-06 CA-01
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 /091 W
-----090323 191138Z /20

O P 191100Z JUL 78
FM AMCONSUL DHAHRAN
TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6377
USLO RIYADH

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE DHAHRAN 0909

FOR THE AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CASC, SA
SUBJ: CORPORAL PUNISHMENT OF NON-MUSLIMS-CASES OF
JOHN W. WILSON AND FRANK E. CLIFFORD

REF: (A) DHAHRAN 0859, (B) JIDDA 4943, (C) DHAHRAN 0794,

1. CONGEN WAS INFORMED TODAY THAT THE EXTREMELY
LENGTHY PERIOD OF DETAINMENT EXPERIENCED BY MR. CLIFFORD
SINCE HIS RELEASE FROM IMPRISONMENT ON MINOR ALCOHOL
CHARGES HAS RESULTED IN HIS DECISION TO ACCEPT THE
LASHES ATTACHED TO HIS SENTENCE AND DEPART THE COUNTRY.
MR. CLIFFORD PLANS TO REQUEST THAT HIS SENTENCE BE
CARRIED OUT ON SATURDAY 22 JULY. MR. CLIFFORD WAS
INFORMED BY HIS COMPANY ONLY A FEW DAYS AGO THAT THE
OPTION TO ACCEPT LASHES AND DEPART THE COUNTRY WAS
NOW OPEN TO HIM. CONGEN HAS LEARNED FROM MR. WILSON'S
EMPLOYER THAT MR. CLIFFORD HAS BEEN ATTEMPTING
TO CONVINCE THE MORE RELUCTANT MR. WILSON
TO ACCEPT HIS LASHES AT THE SAME TIME. MR. WILSON
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HAS NOT APPARENTLY MADE A FINAL DECISION ON HIS
SENTENCE, BUT MAY WELL BE PERSUADED TO DO SO
FOLLOWING MR. CLIFFORD'S PUNISHMENT IN DHAHRAN.

2. SINCE CONGEN HAS NO REAL ASSURANCE FROM EITHER
LOCAL OR CENTRAL SAG OFFICIALS THAT A FAVORABLE
EXEMPTION WILL BE QUICKLY FORTHCOMING IN THE CASES

OF BOTH MEN, WE ARE UNABLE IN GOOD FAITH TO ADVISE
EITHER MAN THAT A RESOLUTION OF THEIR CASES IS
IMMINENT. WE HAVE STRONGLY REGISTERED OUR
DISAPPROVAL OF SUCH AN ACCEPTANCE OF SENTENCE, BUT
THE FORCE OF OUR ARGUMENTS IS EVIDENTLY GIVING WAY
BEFORE THE GREAT DESIRE OF BOTH MEN TO DEPART THE
KINGDOM WITH NO FURTHER DELAY. BOTH MEN ARE FULLY
INFORMED OF THE NUMEROUS REPRESENTATIONS MADE IN
THEIR BEHALF BOTH BY THIS POST AND THE EMBASSY.
MR. CLIFFORD AND MR. WILSON ARE APPRECIATIVE OF
USG EFFORTS MADE IN THEIR BEHALF UP TO THIS POINT,
BUT DO NOT HAVE ANY ASSURANCE THAT SUCH EFFORTS WILL
HAVE IMMEDIATE RESULTS.

MEYERS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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